

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 A-01 OPR-02 SY-04

AID-20 SCCT-02 IO-14 OC-06 CCO-00 NIC-01 DRC-01 /154 W

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O 291000Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2557

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS AO

SUBJECT: LUANDA SITREP APRIL 27-28

1. SUMMARY: GOVEN OUT, RETURNS BY SHIP TO PORTUGAL APRIL 29. FLORID FAREWELL STATEMENT SAYS HIS POLITICAL CAREER IS ENDED. SECGEN PLEDGES TO GUARANTEE ANGOLA AS PART OF PLURICONTINENTAL PORTUGAL AND MAINTAIN ORDER AND SECURITY HERE. ROLE OF CENSORSHIP UNCLEAR; NEWSMEN PROTEST CUTTING BY CENSOR OF TELEGRAM TO SQINOLA COMPLAINING ABOUT CENSOR. "DEMOCRATS" CALL FOR LUANDA DEMONSTRATION APRIL 29, NO TIME GIVEN. SOME DEMONSTRATIONS IN (QUALIFIED) SUPPORT OF JUNTA IN INTERIOR. LUANDA CLAM OVER WEEKEND. END SUMMARY.

2. GOVGEN SANTOS E CASTRO TURNED OVER GOVERNMENT TO SECGEN SOARES CARNEIRO IN CEREMONY ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET, NOON APRIL 27. PRESS APRIL 28 CARRIED TEXT LONG EMOTIONAL AND SELF-SERVING FAREWELL STATEMENT BY SANTOS E CASTRO IN WHICH HE SAID "THUS ENDS MY POLITICAL CAREER, ENDING IN THE BEST MANNER." HE NOTED HE PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH "SOME OF ILLUSTRIOUS" MEMBERS OF JUNTA WHOM HE "RESPECTFULLY" COMPLIMENTED; EXPRESSED

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HOPE ANGOLA WOULD CONTINUE TO PROSPER UNDER THEIR DIRECTION; SAID HIS

CONSCIENCE CLEAR SINCE HE DID HIS BEST CARRY OUT "DELICATE" TASKS REQUIRED BY OLD REGIME'S OVERSEAS STATUTE; SAID HE KNEW OF NO PLACE ON EARTH WHERE CIVIL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP HAD COOPERATED MORE CLOSELY OR HARMONIOUSLY; AND ENDED WITH SPECIAL WORD OF APPRECIATION AND RESPECT FOR THOMAZ, CAETANO, AND TWO MINISTERS OF OVERSEAS UNDER WHOM HE HAD SERVED.

3. SECGEN ISSUED TERSE COMMUNIQUE QUOTING JUNTA'S WORDS: HE PROMISES TO GUARANTEE (IN ANGOLA) SURVIVAL OF NATION AS SOVEREIGN STATE IN ITS PLURICONTINENTAL WHOLE AND WARNS ANGOLA WILL NOT SURVIVE WITHOUT MAINTENANCE OF "ORDER AND SECURITY."

4. CENSORSHIP CONTINUED TO FUNCTION THROUGH APRIL 28, BUT ALLOWING NEWSPAPERS TO PROVIDE FULL COVERAGE OF EVENTS IN OTHER PARTS OF PORTUGUESE WORLD. (MORNING PAPER APRIL 29 GREATLY DELAYED. WE UNDERSTAND IT WAS NOT SUBMITTED TO CENSORSHIP.) AT LEAST SOME MAGAZINES APPEARED OVER WEEKEND WITHOUT CENSORSHIP CLEARANCE. CENSORS APPARENTLY CUT TELEGRAM FROM GROUP OF LOCAL NEWSMEN SENT TO SPINOLA APRIL 27, PROTESTING CONTINUATION OF CENSORSHIP. TEXT OF TELEGRAM SUBSEQUENTLY ALLOWED BY CENSOR TO APPEAR IN DIARIO DE LUANDA.

5. POPULAR DEMONSTRATION BY "DEMOCRATS" CALLED FOR IN LUANDA APRIL 29, ACCORDING TO ADVERTISEMENT IN APRIL 28 NEWSPAPER. NO TIME GIVEN, AND GROUP NOT IDENTIFIED. CONFIRMED DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE OCCURED IN BENGUELA, UNDER AEGIS LOCAL AUTHORITIES WITH PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT REMINISCENT OF PREFABRICATED DEMONSTRATIONS OF EARLIER EAR; AND IN CARMONA, WHERE LOCAL WHITE LEADERS TRIED THEIR SUPPORT OF JUNTA TO PRESUMED SUPPORT BY JUNTA OF PRINCIPLES WHICH POPULACE HEROICALLY DEFENDING SINCE 1961.

6. CITY REMAINED CALM OVER WEEKEND, EXCEPT DURING SEVERE WIND AND RAIN STORM NIGHT APRIL 27 WHICH TOOK FIVE LIVES AND CAUSED CONSIDERABLE MATERIAL DAMAGES.
BRIGGS

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